

## THE SECRETARY

I congratulate all of you on your foresight and commitment to recognizing the importance of the Pacific to our nation's future and acting upon it. Your advice and counsel will be important to our continued effort. Your group includes four Senators, four Members of the House, seven members of the executive, in their unofficial capacity, and I think this demonstrates a bipartisan commitment of both branches. All of us are in your debt for what you're doing and wish you well.

I would like not only to reiterate the President's sentiments but also to assure you of this Administration's encouragement and support. While the committee must remain a private group, we in the executive branch look forward to working with its distinguished members. As you proceed with your work, I would urge you to explore the entire range of possibilities for Pacific cooperation. I have been encouraged by the committee's efforts on a number of critical issues, and I hope that the progress you have made so far is a harbinger of future achievements.

The spirit of Pacific cooperation is also beginning to attract the attention of other governments in the region. Last July, in Jakarta, ASEAN foreign ministers initiated a multilateral dialogue with their Pacific partners—Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, and, of course, the United States. In that "6+5" meeting, we discussed the prospects for Pacific cooperation and agreed to make a review of Pacific-wide developments a continuing feature of these annual ministerial deliberations. The eleven of us also agreed that the governments would work together on the first cooperative project—Human Resources Development, chosen as a focus because it encompasses all nations in the region, big and small. This theme was suggested by Foreign Minister Mochtar of Indonesia, who has spurred us and his ASEAN colleagues to think creatively about the shape of Asia yet to come and the human resources of the region.

At the time, I expressed the view that Pacific cooperation should not be an exclusive process, but that all who are prepared to contribute to wider economic cooperation in the region should be encouraged to do so. The response of the foreign ministers was encouraging, and the progress made to date augurs well for future cooperation in other areas.

In the 7 months since the Jakarta meeting, we have worked to draw together the resources of the U.S. Government to participate in an international inventory of existing human

development and training programs in the Pacific. Three weeks ago, senior officials of all the governments met in Indonesia to review the results of that inventory. Participating governments have now moved closer to agreeing on the principles that will guide the Human Resources Development effort and have identified areas for both immediate and long-term cooperative projects. Over the next 4 months, our representatives will meet to work out specific steps for consideration at next July's postministerial Conference on Pacific Cooperation. For our part, we will make every effort to contribute to the success of this promising undertaking.

I am encouraged by the progress made to date in this field, and I look forward to meeting with the foreign ministers again in Kuala Lumpur this July to decide on further actions that all of the countries can take together.

### The Hopeful Prospects

The Pacific cooperative process is still in its infancy, and it is too early to predict

its ultimate form or direction. Whatever arrangement ultimately evolves is likely to be unique to the Pacific, for the diversity, culture, heritage, and traditions of the Pacific states constitute a unique set of challenges.

As we prepare to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Pacific war, it is appropriate to reflect on what we have accomplished and to ponder the future. For if there have been moments of darkness in the history of Asia, there is also light in Asia's philosophical, esthetic, and cultural traditions. The tragedy that befell Angkor Wat symbolizes the ironic juxtaposition of Asia's turbulent history of conflict and its rich heritage of civilization. When we look back 40 years from now, I hope we will see this incipient process of Pacific cooperation as the beginning of a new era—an era of reconciliation, progress, and peace.

<sup>1</sup>Press release 27. ■

## America and the Struggle for Freedom

by Secretary Shultz

*Address before the Commonwealth Club of California in San Francisco on February 22, 1985.<sup>1</sup>*

A revolution is sweeping the world today—a democratic revolution. This should not be a surprise. Yet it is noteworthy because many people in the West lost faith, for a time, in the relevance of the idea of democracy. It was fashionable in some quarters to argue that democracy was culture bound; that it was a luxury only industrial societies could afford; that other institutional structures were needed to meet the challenges of development; that to try to encourage others to adopt our system was ethnocentric and arrogant.

In fact, what began in the United States of America over two centuries ago as a bold new experiment in representative government has today captured the imagination and the passions of peoples on every continent. The Solidarity movement in Poland; resistance forces in Afghanistan, in Cambodia, in Nicaragua, in Ethiopia and

Angola; dissidents in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; advocates of peaceful democratic change in South Africa, Chile, the Republic of Korea, and the Philippines—all these brave men and women have something in common: they seek independence, freedom, and human rights—ideals which are at the core of democracy and which the United States has always championed.

### The American Tradition

All Americans can be proud that the example of our Founding Fathers has helped to inspire millions around the globe. Throughout our own history, we have always believed that freedom is the birthright of all peoples and that we could not be true to ourselves or our principles unless we stood for freedom and democracy not only for ourselves but for others.

And so, time and again in the last 200 years, we have lent our support—moral and otherwise—to those around the world struggling for freedom and independence. In the 19th century Americans smuggled guns and powder to Simon Bolivar, the Great Liberator;